

Learn Before You Burn



Fall is here and this year's fire season was particularly devastating to California's forestlands, wildlife, economy, people, and without question, its air quality. Proper clearing of vegetation around homes can help prevent and minimize wildfires in the future. Clearing of vegetation may include burning. With the opening of burn season fast approaching, the El Dorado County Air Quality Management District (AQMD) wishes to remind residents of the "What, When, Where and How" of proper and legal outdoor Open Burning.



Whenever you can, dispose in green waste or compost your cuttings instead of burning!

What

ONLY:

- Dry vegetation originating from the property on which it will be burned.
- If it's going to rain, cover your pile to keep it dry. Do not burn the cover.
- Don't burn just pine needles as they will only smolder. Add wood to heat the fire

When

ONLY:

- On designated Burn Days (call the BURN LINE!)
- When local weather conditions are appropriate.
- With a valid Burn Permit from AQMD (for piles greater than 4ft x 4ft).
- And/or a Burn Permit from your local fire protection district or CalFire if required.



BURN DAY
Information Lines

West Slope:

530-621-5897 or
866-621-5897

South Lake Tahoe:

530-621-5842 or
866-332-2876

Where

ONLY:

- On the property from which the dry vegetation originated.
- In an area where it's safe to burn, away from other combustibles, with an adequate water supply and means to contact emergency personnel.



How

ONLY:

- In accordance with Air District Rule 300 Open Burning.
- In accordance with any other applicable requirements from your local fire protection district, CalFire, or US Forest Service. (CalFIRE (530) 644-2345)

Smoke nuisance complaints are the most common complaints AQMD receives during burn season. While you are allowed to burn vegetation under certain conditions, you do not have a right to inundate your neighbors with smoke and cause a nuisance. The information above and at the Air District's Open Burning website: [http://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/Burn_Information_\(Outdoor\).aspx](http://www.edcgov.us/Government/AirQualityManagement/Burn_Information_(Outdoor).aspx) is intended to help residents burn properly and avoid creating a nuisance and degrading air quality.

As a reminder, the California Health & Safety Code Section 42400 gives AQMD the authority to levy fines to persons who violate District Rules, including Rule 300 Open Burning. The District also has a compliance course that violators may be required to complete.

BURN PERMIT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Permittee

The name, address and contact information of the person who will be conducting the burning.

Burn Location

The street address of the burn location, if different from the mailing address. If the location does not have a street address, provide the assessors parcel number (APN).

Distance to Nearest Neighbor

The approximate distance in feet or yards from the burn location to the nearest neighbor's residence.

Size of Piles

The width, length and height in feet of the accumulated vegetation pile(s) to be burned.

Description of Burn Project, Private Party or Company

- **Agricultural Burning***: Using fire in agricultural operations (growing crops, raising fowl or animals), wildlife and game habitat improvement, disease and pest prevention.
- **Forestry Management Burning**: Using fire to remove forest debris associated with timber operations, silvicultural or forest protection.
- **Land Development**: Using fire to clear property for commercial or residential development.
- **Residential Burning**: Burning vegetation on parcels having up to two residential dwellings.

Description of Burn Project, Public Agency

- **Ditch and Road Maintenance**: Using fire to clear right-of-ways, levees, ditches and reservoirs.
- **Fire Suppression and Training**: Setting backfires to suppress a wildfire to save life or property. Training fires necessary for the instruction of public employees and/or volunteer firefighters.
- **Range Improvement Burning***: Using fire to remove vegetation and improve wildlife, game and livestock habitat or to establish agricultural practices on previously uncultivated land.
- **Wildland Vegetation Management**: Using fire under the prescribed burning program to burn land predominantly covered with chaparral, trees, grass, or standing brush.

**No wildlife or game habitat improvement burning shall be conducted until after a written statement approving the burn is obtained from the California Department of Fish and Game and filed with the Air Pollution Control Officer.*

Conditions

The conditions must be read and understood. If not understood, please contact the AQMD for more information. If conditions are not met, a violation will be issued and permit may be revoked.

Signature of Permittee

By signing, the permit holder pledges they have read, understand and will comply with the conditions. Additionally, they will insure anyone assisting with the burning will also comply with the conditions. A complete description of the requirements in District Rules 101 and 300 is available at

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/drdb/ed/cur.htm>

If you need assistance, please contact the AQMD at (530) 621-7501.



Burn Permit

El Dorado County Air Quality Management District
345 Fair Lane, Building T-1, Placerville, CA 95667
Phone: (530) 621-7501 Fax: (530) 295-2774
aqmd@edcgov.us

Burn Information Lines: West Slope: (530) 621-5897 (866) 621-5897 Lake Tahoe: (530) 621-5842 (888) 332-2876

PERMITTEE	Name	<input type="checkbox"/> Resident
	Mailing Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Contractor
	City, State & ZIP Code	Phone Number
	Fax Number	E-Mail Address

Burn Location: Street Address or Assessors Parcel Number (if different from mailing address)

City

Type of Material to be Burned	Distance to Nearest Neighbor
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Size of Piles	Number of Piles
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Private Party Burn Project Type: (see definitions on back)	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Burning <input type="checkbox"/> Forestry Management Burning <input type="checkbox"/> Land Development <input type="checkbox"/> Residential Burning	Public Agency Burn Project Type: (see definitions on back, additional requirements apply)	<input type="checkbox"/> Ditch and Road Maintenance <input type="checkbox"/> Fire Suppression Training <input type="checkbox"/> Range Improvement Burning <input type="checkbox"/> Wildland Vegetation Management
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CONDITIONS:

- This permit is valid only on permissive BURN DAYS. You must call the burn information line for your area (listed above) immediately prior to burning.
- You may burn only vegetation. Please do not burn stumps and poison oak. You cannot burn any other material, including trash, construction debris, furniture and tires.
- Material must be from parcel where burn is taking place. Material cannot be transferred from one parcel to another.
- Burn piles should be loosely arranged in a teepee shape to minimize smoke produced. Piles must be free of soil and rock. You cannot burn in a burn barrel.
- The material must be dry. Prior to burning, piles should be covered to protect from rain.
- The material may only be ignited with an approved ignition device (drip or propane torch) or non glossy paper.
- You may burn only the amount of material that will be consumed in one day.
- Smoke from your burn pile(s) must not negatively impact neighboring residents.
- This permit is valid only for parcel identified above and must be available for inspection at the site.
- This permit may be revoked or suspended for violation of any permit condition or when necessary for public safety.

I HAVE READ, UNDERSTAND AND WILL COMPLY WITH THESE PERMIT CONDITIONS

Signature: _____ Date: _____

FOR AQMD USE ONLY	Approval Date:	Expiration Date:	Approved by:
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Comments: